Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for reducing noise in a voice signal, the method comprising ~~the steps of~~:

~~(i)~~ (a) processing a ~~compressed~~ digital signal representative of the voice signal including a speech component and a noise component, said processing comprising applying linear prediction coding (LPC) analysis to said digital signal thereby obtaining a compressed digital signal representative of said voice signal; and

~~(ii)~~ (b) processing the compressed digital signal for determining a power spectrum of the noise component, thereby enabling to ~~be~~ subtracted the noise component from the compressed digital signal.

2. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said compressed digital signal is based on a set of ~~linear prediction coding~~ (LPC) coefficients and a residual signal~~, and is obtained by applying an LPC analysis to the voice signal~~, said processing comprising parameterization of the residual signal.

3. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 2, wherein the processing of the compressed digital signal comprises ~~the steps of~~:

- carrying out said determining of the~~a~~ power spectrum of the noise component of said compressed digital signal during a non-speech activity, and calculating its average value;

- calculating a power spectrum estimator of the compressed digital signal with a reduced noise component;

- determining an autocorrelation function of the compressed digital signal with the reduced noise component; and

- determining a set of modified LPC coefficients from the autocorrelation function.

4. (Currently Amended) A method for processing a voice signal to reduce a noise therefrom, the method comprising ~~the steps of~~:

(a) providing a digital signal representative of said voice signal including a speech component and a noise component;

(b) applying linear prediction coding (LPC) analysis to the digital signal, thereby obtaining a compressed digital signal representative of said voice signal, wherein

said compressed digital signal is based on a set of LPC

coefficients and a residual signal;

(c) determining a power spectrum of the noise

component during a non-speech activity, and calculating its

average value;

(d) calculating a power spectrum estimator of the

compressed digital signal with reduced noise component;

(e) determining an autocorrelation function of the

compressed digital signal with the reduced noise component;

and

(f) determining modified LPC coefficients

representing the speech component with reduced noise spectrum

from the autocorrelation function.

5. (Currently Amended) A voice processing unit for

use in a voice operated system, the voice processing unit

comprising a noise reduction utility interconnected between a

voice coding utility and a voice recognition utility; the

voice coding utility being configured and operable to process

a digital signal representative of an input voice signal,

including a speech component and a noise component, by

applying linear prediction coding (LPC) analysis to said

digital signal thereby obtaining a compressed digital signal

representative of said input voice signal, the noise reduction

utility being configured and operable for receiving processing

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a the compressed digital signal, representative of an input voice signal received from the voice coding utility processing it to determine a power spectrum of the noise component, and generating an output compressed digital signal with reduced noise spectrum.

6.   (Currently Amended) A voice operated system comprising: an input port for receiving an input voice signal; an analog-to-digital converter for processing the input signal to generate a digital output indicative thereof; a voice processing utility for processing the digital signal by applying thereto linear prediction coding (LPC) analysis and generating a compressed digital signal, representative of the input voice signal, said compressed digital signal being in the form of a set of LPC coefficients and a residual signal; a voice processing unit; a system interface utility; and a control module, which is interconnected between the voice processing utility and the voice processing unit, and is connected to the system interface to operate it in response to a speech signal; the voice processing unit comprising:

- a noise reduction utility coupled to the voice processing utility for processing said compressed digital signal to determine a power spectrum of the noise component, and generating an output compressed digital signal with reduced noise spectrum; and

      - a voice recognition utility coupled to the noise reduction utility for processing said output compressed digital signal with reduced noise spectrum.